



Attorney's Docket No.: 10939-002001

266/4

#51A
h. McLaughlin
10.29.02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Surya Kumar Kovvali et al. Art Unit :
Serial No. : 09/536,416 Examiner :
Filed : March 28, 2000
Title : TRANSPORT OF ISOCHRONOUS AND BURSTY DATA ON A SONET RING

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

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In the claims:

OCT 28 2002

Please cancel claims 1-17 and add new claims 18-48 as follows.

Technology Center 2600

18. A method for communicating between a plurality of nodes of a communication system in which a series of fixed-length frames pass between the nodes of the system comprising:

provisioning the communication system, including allocating in each frame a fixed part, said fixed part including a first part of the frame for passing control information between the nodes and a second part for passing data streams over a plurality of dynamically allocated channels between the nodes;

at a first node in the system,

(1) receiving a communication request for a dynamically allocated channel between a second node and a third node including receiving request data from the second node in the first part of a received frame,

(2) allocating a portion of the second part of the frames to said dynamically allocated channel, and

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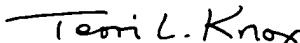
I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

10/15/02

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